

HOUSE BILL 3064  
By Odom

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 3, relative to state parks.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 3, Part 1 is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a) The department of environment and conservation is hereby directed to formulate a long-range plan, hereinafter referred to as a "master plan". Such master plan shall include the following:

- (1) Funding requirements for state parks;
- (2) Facilities preservation, maintenance and utilization;
- (3) Management and personnel staffing, training, compensation and professional development;
- (4) Preservation, development and expansion of existing and new park resources;
- (5) Educational programming; and
- (6) Land requisition.

(b) The master plan shall include goals and projections for state parks for the next ten (10) years and shall be updated each five (5) years by the department. The initial master plan shall require approval by the house conservation and environment committee and the senate environment, conservation and tourism committee prior to March 1, 1999 and before March 1 of

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each year for the subsequent five (5) years thereafter. Prior to submitting the plan to the appropriate committees of the general assembly, the department shall conduct public hearings after public notice has been given in accordance with title 8, chapter 44. Public hearings shall be conducted in each of the nine (9) development districts of the state regarding the components of the master plan, its update each five (5) years and any major interim revisions to the master plan. The plan shall also be submitted to the Tennessee Environmental Council and the Tennessee Recreation and Parks Association for review and comment prior to the plan's submission to its applicable committees. All park functions shall be effectuated in accordance with the provisions of the master plan as adopted and ratified by the department and approved by the required legislative committees.

(c) The department shall not add any new capital projects to the state parks until the required legislative committees approve the master plan. Once the master plan is approved, no new capital projects other than those provided for in the master plan shall be funded until the plan is appropriately amended and reviewed.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998, the public welfare requiring it.